

# United Methodist Church of Monroe

## Messenger

*A welcoming family of caring Christians dedicated  
to joyful service to all God's people.  
Share in the journey.*



I would like to share with you some of the highlights of the 216th Session of the New York Annual Conference, which was held June 10th to 13th at Hofstra University under the direction of our wonderful interim Bishop Jane Middleton. Every year clergy and laity come from all over the New York conference to gather together for worship, business, celebration and renewal. Our conference encompasses a wonderful diversity, in which people of all different races, ethnicities, ages, languages, worship styles and churches of all sizes are present. The conference covers New York City, Long Island, Connecticut, the Catskills, Westchester, Orange and Dutchess Counties in New York.

The theme "Dancing with the Spirit" was definitely present in the worship celebrations. What a joy to witness the commissioning and ordination service on Saturday. We also honored the memories of those who have passed since our last gathering, including our beloved Bishop Martin McLee.

In 2012 the General Conference of the United Methodist Church, which is comprised of all the UMC churches in the US plus those in Europe, Africa, the Philippines and other places around the world, began an Act of Reconciliation with Native Americans. As part of this witness we had a very moving worship service in which those of us who were Non-Natives confessed to the explicit and implicit ways in which we have hurt Native Americans. We pledged to never again take away land, perpetuate violence or discriminate against any tribes or tribe members. I am keeping the silver ribbon (which we tied on our wrists as a symbolic gesture of this) in my office as a

way to remind myself of this. Next year when we celebrate Native American Sunday, we at UMC of Monroe will have an opportunity to learn more about the Act of Reconciliation and hold our own witness.

The business portion of the conference included numerous resolutions debated and voted on, as well as the passing of the Conference budget. This was the first time I can remember that the budget passed without any discussion or dissension!

Missions were also celebrated and it was a joy to place our No More Malaria check in the offering basket. Don't worry if you haven't had a chance to give to that yet. We will be taking a special offering for this on July 19th when we celebrate VBS. Our mission focus for VBS and for the entire month of July will be No More Malaria, so stay tuned. Our Lay Representative, Quintin Brantley, was busy at the Mozambique table and I at the next table for Ghana, just a few of the additional mission opportunities that were recognized.

To see pictures, read articles or find out more about conference, log on to the website, [www.nyac.com](http://www.nyac.com). You might even see me Dancing with the Spirit! (Yes, I did bust-a-move during the Harriman UMC concert!)

I pray that the Spirit continues to dance and that God's grace surrounds us all.

In Christ's Service,

*Patricia Macdonald*

Our first Mozambique Car Show was a great success!



Welcome to  
Our Family

We baptized Derek Beckett  
Flynn on May 17th.  
His parents are Michael and  
Rebecca Flynn.

### Summer Worship Series:

The Psalms are the prayers of the Hebrew people and run the gamut from praise to gut-wrenching pleas for help. Throughout this poetry runs a thread - we can trust in God to hold our lives. Come join us for worship during the summer as we take a break from the worry, anxiety, and distress that life can bring and let Holy Assurance hold us fast.

## JOIN US FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



**DATE: July 13 - 17, 2015**  
**TIME: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

WHERE: United Methodist Church of Monroe  
515 Cutlers Farm Road

WHAT: Storytelling, Music, Snacks, Crafts and Recreation

AGES: Entering Kindergarten – 5th Grade

COST: \$10 per child (\$20 maximum per family)

For registration forms, questions or other information:

CALL: 203.268.8395

E-MAIL: [umc@umcmonroe.org](mailto:umc@umcmonroe.org)

WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US FOR A FUN WEEK!

If you would like to help with VBS, please contact the office.

***We need lots of volunteers!***



Join us for Family Game Night on Saturday, July 18 from 6-8 p.m. Interested in hosting it at the park or your backyard? Let the office know. We'd love to play some outdoor games in addition to board games.

Covenant to Care for Children of Greater Bridgeport will be collecting school supplies and backpacks for the school season throughout June, July and August. Your help would be greatly appreciated. You can leave any donated items on the shelf in the narthex hallway. If you have any questions, please contact Priscilla Bromley at 203-268-4218.



UMCM was well represented in Monroe's Memorial Day Parade. Yeah for the Kazoo Band!



We collected lots of Pots for the PIVOT ministry. Thank you to all who contributed.



### **HARVEST FEST 2015** Saturday, October 3 from 10 am to 3 pm

Pulled pork, baked potatoes, apple fritters, apple pies & bluegrass music will all be back! We've added Homemade Chili in Bread Bowls!! Join in the fun! Here's how you can help to make this a successful event:

- Apple Pie Preparation: Saturday, 9/19 from 8 am to 12 pm. The sign-up sheet for donations of apple pie ingredients will be posted in early August. Items will need to be dropped off at the church by Sunday, 9/13. See Rose Aiello if you can help coordinate the day.
- Indoor Tag Sale – Need a coordinator to collect items from members, and price and set up. The music room will be used for the sale and, if weather permits, we may be able to put some of the items outside for selling as well.
- Signs: Date needs to be changed on the yellow signs. The older wooden apple signs can be used, but they need some repair/repainting should anyone want to take that project on.
- Childrens' Corner – Need coordinator(s) to help with the games, craft and prizes.
- Autumn Photos – The photographer from the Breakfast with Santa has offered to come and take Autumn photos for us and we will need someone to assist.
- Do you enjoy canning vegetables or making jams/jellies? How about home made candles? Donate your product and we'll sell it!
- Craft vendors will be welcome again. If you know of someone that has a craft, be sure to invite them to send in an application (available through the church office or contact Rose Aiello at [buildingroses@aol.com](mailto:buildingroses@aol.com).)
- Friendship Circle (10:30 am) and My Fair Ladies (7:30 pm) will continue to meet every other Monday all summer (hot weather permitting!) All are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend!
- Set up of sanctuary and fellowship hall will be after service on Sunday, 9/27. (The annual "moving of the chairs"!)
- Decorating and other set up can be done anytime during the week as needed.
- Pie Baking (60 pies needed), apple cutting for fritters and cheese cutting will be on Friday, 10/2 from 8 am until we are done.
- It's not too late to make your suggestions! Contact Anita Stabler-Hussey, Chairperson, with any questions. ([amstab44@aol.com](mailto:amstab44@aol.com) or 203-783-9997). Updates will be posted on the bulletin board throughout the summer and September.





*If you would like to add a person to our prayer list, notify the church office or leave your request in the collection plate. Names will remain on the prayer list for 3 weeks. If you would like your name or that of a relative or friend to stay on the list longer, please contact the office.*

Chrislips to Arizona

Nicholas Price-15 yr old undergoing treatment for a brain tumor (grandparents former members of UMCM)

Suzanne Snapp-stroke

Adam

John Whalen's family

Comfort to the family & community of Milford on death of Laura- a junior in HS

Those in Southern Sudan facing famine

Colleague of Claudia Wallace-Pat Reeves- Stage 3 colon cancer

Audrey Scott-friend of Claudia's parents- sudden kidney issues

Barbara Palmer-medical issues

Carl Sword

Griffiths-to North Carolina

Marge Derle-starting to walk again

Michael Hossler-continued healing

Bobbie Grant's friend Donald

Dave Rupp's father-more surgery for cancer

Carl Sword's sister-in-law-Karen

Comfort for the family of Bob Nixie on his passing

Margaret Pantalone-recovery from surgery

Sylvia Turchin-multiple medical problems

Baby Dylan May Murphy & parents

Beth & Vincent Carbone-continued healing from auto accident

Shirley Cornut

Kristen Griest-Army Rangers school. Continued prayers for her strength, endurance & health (friends of Russ and Leigh Gray)

Willie Wiley

Katya Downey's neighbor- Richard-kidney disease

Paul Lesko's friend-Sultan-liver cancer & wife Nancy as she cares for him

Dotti Hossler's brother-stroke

Cari Harris

Linda Tedesco-Turner's daughter -cancer

Bobbie's cousin's widow-Mary Johnson

Theresa-friend of Yorks-cancer

Walt, April & their unborn baby

Rosemarie Lewis-Bobbie's friend-chemo for lung cancer

Richard Rice-stage 5 kidney disease

Dave York's cousin Richard-recurrence of cancer

Gail Northrop

Ernie Salvas

Robert Noll-cancer treatment

Claudia Wallace's parents

Olivia-Juvenile Diabetes

Sue Simmons' friend- Debbie- battling MS

Richard Olsen-terminal cancer

Gail Mas' niece Suzette-healing for spine

Jimmy - Bobbie Grant's friend's son

Lynn Abbott's grandson- Brady

Fromm's friend-Radovan Frzop

From Lydia: Hayley Annino-friend of Kathryn-leukemia

Anna- friend of Sue Simmons-colon cancer

York's daughter-in-law-Lori-continued cancer treatment

Jodi Kles -Sheryl's cousin - living w/rare form of cancer

Military personnel

Unemployed

First responders, firemen, policemen

Persons dealing w/serious medical issues, drug addiction

Caregivers

Guidance for world leaders

Covenant to Care children, foster children

Those who do not have anyone to pray for them

Those who are persecuted for their faith

Christians in harm's way

Those going through personal turmoil & facing financial concerns

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## SEEKING COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Sign up today to host a coffee hour as a way to...support fellowship...commemorate a special event...make some new friends...share your favorite cookies...celebrate Summer...All the basics (plates, cups, napkins, utensils, sugar) are supplied - including the coffee and instructions on how to make it. The host makes the coffee, heats the tea water and supplies the creamer...of course, no one will object if you want to put out juice and a few cookies. The sign-up sheet is posted outside the sanctuary or email the church office to book your date.





### MINI MISSION WAGON NEEDS

Summer is a time for picnics. Help us with some picnic sandwiches by bringing in mayo, ketchup and sandwich condiments.



Dates to look forward to:

July 13-17 VBS

October 3 Harvest Fest

The United Methodist Church of Monroe

Jul 2015 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
			9am - Two Planks @	9am - Two Planks @	9am - Two Planks @	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10am - Sunday	9am - Two Planks @ 10:30am - Friendshi 7:30pm - My Fair	9am - Two Planks @ 12pm - Mission	9am - Two Planks @	9am - Two Planks @	9am - Two Planks @	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10am - Sunday	<b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 9am - Two Planks @ 6pm - VBS	9am - Two Planks @ 6pm - VBS	9am - Two Planks @ 6pm - VBS	9am - Two Planks @ 6pm - VBS	9am - Two Planks @ 6pm - VBS	6pm - Family Game
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10am - Sunday	10:30am - Friendshi 7:30pm - My Fair	7:15pm - Council				
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
10am - Sunday						

**For more information on calendar events,  
see the calendar on our website.**

Pastor Martha is generally in the office Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday mornings. Please check the updated calendar on the website for changes to the schedule. For a visit or pastoral care emergency, please call or email Pastor Martha.

PastorMartha@verizon.net

Parsonage (203-880-9227)

**Check us out on FaceBook...United Methodist church of Monroe is on FaceBook!  
Visit our Page and 'Like' us today!**

We need YOUR FEEDBACK for proposed "UMC of Monroe Health & Wellness" series...

Healing was a ministry of the early church. Christ's ministry was all about healing, feeding the minds of his followers, supporting the healthy life styles, praying for the health and welfare of his people and getting guidance and support from God through his own prayers.

Our UMC of Monroe Evangelism team is looking for your feedback and support for a proposed "Health & Wellness" series that we would look to sponsor for both our church family and the broader Monroe community. Our current thinking is to offer a monthly health & wellness topic of interest. We would be targeting people within our church family to participate as well as sessions that might reach others in the community. We are looking for potential topics as well as people with the appropriate skills within our church family who might be able to lead these topics (and/or help us find resources to help us at no charge.) We have prepared an online survey to get your specific feedback on potential topics including: fitness classes, nutrition topics, group walks, skin care, CPR training, and many others. Please follow this link to take our survey:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1LAizgfFFtyXSIFJkGgfQ\\_X3Hmoh9hWcDiUDpyQy-C0/viewform?c=0&w=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1LAizgfFFtyXSIFJkGgfQ_X3Hmoh9hWcDiUDpyQy-C0/viewform?c=0&w=1)

We will also send it out through the church email distribution list. Please encourage all members of your family to give us their survey feedback. In the meantime, if you have any additional questions or feedback, please contact any of the Evangelism team members or Carin Florin, who will be working closely with our team, with your feedback and/or willingness to help us with this new outreach ministry. Thanks!

The UMCM Evangelism Team: Wayne Epstein, Darlene Dobler-Palin, Sheryl Rajpolt, Vicki Whalen

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## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

Children's Sunday was celebrated on June 7 with all our Sunday School classes participating in the worship service, including communion. Participation awards, acknowledgement of our teachers and recognition of our graduates were all included in this special day in the life of our church. In addition, the Waterman Scholarship was awarded by the Trustees to Patrick Chrislip and Matthew Hornak, two of our graduating high school seniors. A special coffee hour was provided with snacks and cupcake decorating! Congratulations to all our youth for completing another year in their journey!





7/1 John Rajpolt  
7/4 Heather Palmer  
7/7 Sam Gray  
7/9 Ina Beardsley  
7/9 Betsy Sword  
7/10 Bobbie Grant  
7/14 Roger Grant  
7/17 Mitchell Hornak  
7/21 Laurie Palmer  
7/25 Jim Hussey  
7/28 Jennifer Chaudhary



7/1 Carol & Richard Steiner  
7/14 Carin & Bill Florin



The choir will be taking a break for the summer starting June 21st. If you would like to perform special music during summer worship, please contact the church office. We need your talents!



### **Many thanks to:**

Dotti Hossler for cleaning the kitchen. Let's keep it that way!

The ladies group for putting together the birthing kits.

We want to thank you for the wonderful send off you gave us on the 14th. The vase is beautiful and we have just the spot for it in our new home. We appreciated all the kind words and prayers. We will miss you all, but we have many memories to cherish. Come and visit anytime!

Blessings,

Gary, Julie and Patrick Chrislip  
2139 E. Everglade Ln.  
Gilbert, AZ 85298



Annette and Bob Griffith, long time members (37 years to be exact!), have moved to North Carolina. Over those 37 years, these two individuals volunteered a great deal of their time and talents to their church family on various committees. As a token of the church's appreciation of their dedication, a monetary donation to the Volunteers in Mission - Mozambique will be made in their honor. During worship on Sunday, May 24 we celebrated with the singing of "We Are Marching" and a special coffee hour. A "Bar BQ" dinner was hosted by Russ and Leigh Gray as a final send-off. We wish them good health and happiness!

On Sunday, June 14, we said goodbye to the Chrislip family with some humor and tears! During worship, the choir serenaded Julie with a performance of "Ain't She Sweet" with revised lyrics and Kathy Schmalkuche prepared a beautiful slide show with all the wonderful memories we all shared with the family. The church gifted them with an engraved vase as a very small token of our appreciation for all of Julie's talents as our choir director and church secretary and all the family did for us. We will miss them all!



United Methodist Church of Monroe

# *Messenger*

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Web Site: [www.umcmonroe.org](http://www.umcmonroe.org)

Worship & Sunday School: Sunday, 10 a.m.

